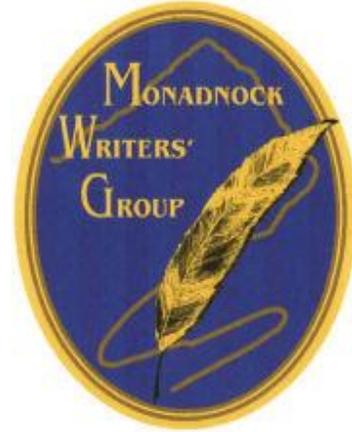


# The Quill



June 2021:  
Monadnock Writers' Group  
Supporting Writers Since 1984

The Monadnock Writers' Group is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

Mail - PO Box 3071, Peterborough, NH 03458  
Website - <http://www.monadnockwriters.org/>  
Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/monadnockwriters/>  
E-mail - [monadnockwriters@gmail.com](mailto:monadnockwriters@gmail.com)

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## General Monthly Meetings of MWG

The Monadnock Writers' Group will meet on the third Saturday of each month through June 2021. Our meetings begin at 9:45 and continue to about 11:45. In respect for public health guidelines, these meetings are being held online for now, but our full monthly program will be included, such as regional announcements of events for writers, a ten-minute reading from a member, and a main speaker sharing professional writing experience and answering our questions. The Speaker Series is open to the public and free of charge. Our speakers are instructive and inspirational for writers of all literary forms, genres, and levels of experience.

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### June 19 Read-Around

At the June event, members of the Monadnock Writers' Group will read excerpts of their own work up to ten minutes each. Every year this is an inspirational opportunity to enjoy the creative talents of our members. This intriguing visit with fellow writers will be online via Zoom at the usual link for monthly meetings. The public is welcome to attend.

At the June meeting we also elect officers for the following year. The new program season begins in September.

The June meeting can be followed via Zoom by connecting at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86162106433?pwd=cWRHV1NjNi9HQVU5QWhFSyt1UnlqQT09>

Follow the prompts to join with audio and join with video. You can also participate by telephone by calling 1 (646) 558-8656. Use the meeting ID: 861 6210 6433 and passcode: 744422.

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## Writing Opportunities

***The May Sarton New Hampshire Poetry Prize:*** Bauhan Publishing offers an annual poetry contest in honor of New Hampshire poet May Sarton to encourage both new and experienced poets from anywhere in the world to submit their poetry in a previously unpublished collection. Your collection could potentially win \$1,000 and publication through their company so that global readership can enjoy your words!

2020 marked the tenth year of the annual May Sarton New Hampshire Poetry Prize contest. Bauhan has had the honor of working with a range of talented judges and poets to produce beautiful poetry collections. Click on the prize link below for more information on the contest, to find out how to enter, and to view the previous winners published collections! <https://bauhanpublishing.com/contests/> . It is open for submissions until June 30.

***Submissions to Volume II of COVID Spring:*** Hobblebush Books invites submissions for consideration in volume II of *COVID Spring*. The poems published in last year's anthology were written at the very start of the pandemic. With an unprecedented year gone by, this is a great opportunity to reflect; case numbers are starting to come down, the vaccine rollout is picking up speed—how has your viewpoint changed?

Poems should address the COVID-19 pandemic in some way: how Granite Staters are experiencing and responding to isolation, job loss, changes in community, family and relationship, school, technology, personal values, sickness, grief, loss or changes in security, freedom of movement, identity, and health.

NEW: We will be including a youth section in this year's anthology. Youth poets should indicate on the submission form if they are 18 years of age or younger. Please feel free to share our submission page with anyone who you think might be interested!

The submission deadline has been moved to June 15. Details at <https://www.hobblebush.com/anthology-submissions>

***Get Your Creative Work into Smoky Quartz:*** Published by the Monadnock Writers' Group, *Smoky Quartz* is an online journal of literature and art, named after New Hampshire's state gem. See the Spring 2021 issue at <https://smokyquartz.org> .

*Smoky Quartz* is accepting submissions for the **Fall 2021 Issue**. We publish poetry, short fiction, short nonfiction, creative nonfiction (including, personal essay, short memoir, and hybrid prose, which can integrate poetry, dialogue, and images), art, and photography.

We welcome submissions from new, emerging, and established writers and artists with ties to New Hampshire. Please send us your best work! Note: we now accept prose pieces up to 3000 words. Visit our website for complete guidelines and to submit your work:

[www.smokyquartz.org/submissions](http://www.smokyquartz.org/submissions)



Photograph by Maxwell Irwin

**A Poetry Challenge:** The Creative Hub issued a call for poetry submissions concerned with the climate emergency, the current crisis and possible aftermaths. They are looking for poetry that is inspiring, meaningful and original, and that reflects the principles, concerns and values of the Extinction Rebellion from a global, regional or local perspective. See details at: <https://xrcreative.org/poetry-submissions/>

**A Unique Invitation for Poets:** *WRITING THE LAND* is a collaborative project between local land trusts and artists to help raise awareness for the preservation of land, ecosystems, and biodiversity

With support of our partnered land trusts we help coordinate poets to “adopt” a conserved property, partnering them with that respective land trust for the calendar year. Poets will visit these adopted properties and then create poems inspired by the land. Because our current times restrict in-person events this project emphasizes the importance of individual connection to the land and will include event-sharing experiences of poets reading on behalf of the land—inspiring others to visit or donate toward the protection of these farms, ecosystems, habitats, sanctuaries, and wilderness preserves.

*Writing the Land* is an attempt to honor nature and our relationship with it in a way that is as equitable and transparent as it is deep and entangled. As poets and advocates, we declare our intention that the scope of this project be as inclusive—to humans and places—as we hope the mantle of protection that land trusts offer can be. Our work in writing the land will never be complete but rather gains strength, depth, beauty, and energy from a multitude of voices.

Poets who create work for *Writing the Land* poets agree to give our project *First North American Serial Rights* to publish the work online as well as potentially in an annual anthology. All rights revert back to the author upon publication. We ask acknowledgment if the author chooses to republish any accepted pieces. Further details are available at: <https://www.writingtheland.org/poets>

## MWG Announcements

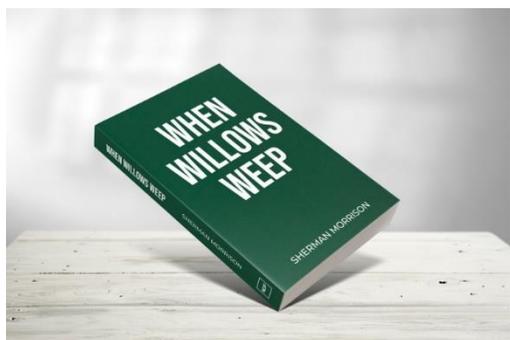
**New Book from MWG Member:** Ann Robinson announces her first novel: *Witch, A Cranky Little Tale*, released by Peter E. Randall Published on October 26, 2020.

Midwest reviewer Julie Summers writes this in "Bookshelf": "Witch deftly blends humor, Wiccan precepts, as well as adroitly fashioned and memorable characters. A thoroughly enjoyable read from first page to last, Ann Robinson's tale will prove to be a unique and welcome addition to Contemporary Women's Fiction collections in general, and personal Magical Realism/Humorous Fantasy reading lists in particular."

Local readers may purchase *Witch* in paperback at Toadstool Bookshops in Keene, Peterborough and Milford. Ann's first book, a collection of short fiction entitled "Ordinary Perils", published by Peter Randall in 2002, is still available at a reduced price. For details, send a query to [monadnockwriters@gmail.com](mailto:monadnockwriters@gmail.com).



**New Book Coming this Summer from MWG Member:** *When Willows Weep* is a young adult fantasy novel about a twelve-year-old girl in the sixth grade who finds herself in the middle of an epic

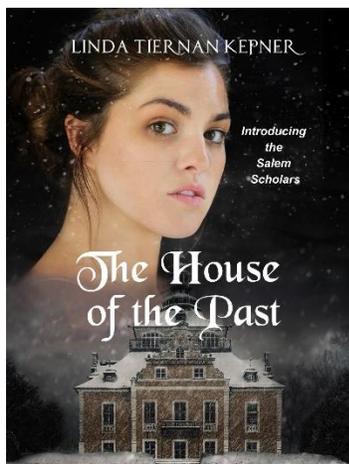
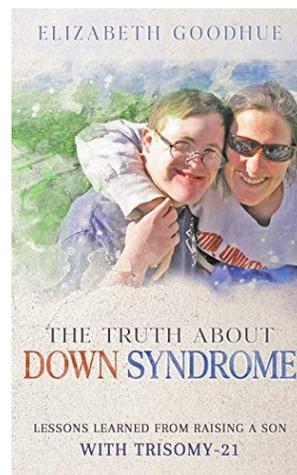


battle between good and evil. Using her three divine gifts of Sight, Light, and Fight, she must help defeat demonic forces threatening to destroy all that is good.

“My name is Sherman Morrison and I am the author of *When Willows Weep*. I wrote this book because I wanted to explore interesting intersections such as compassion and combat, faith and fantasy, ecology and education, redemption and rejection, all set in modern times with fantasy elements layered in.”

For more information and a video from Sherman, go to [https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/when-willows-weep-by-g-sherman-h-morrison#/  
/](https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/when-willows-weep-by-g-sherman-h-morrison#/)

**National Award Winner from MWG Author:** MWG member Elizabeth Goodhue won the 2020 Page Turner award for non-fiction. In this book, Elizabeth traces her journey beyond the maze of social, governmental, medical, and school bureaucracies that accompany people with disabilities. Her mission has always been to bust the stereotypes people create, not just around Trisomy-21 (Down syndrome) but around anyone with a difference. As you meet William in these pages, you see he is just like everyone else except that he has an extra chromosome. And Elizabeth, though facing unique challenges, is like every other mother devoted to raising a healthy child and seeing him into adulthood.



**New Book Series from MWG Member begins this Month:** Linda Tiernan Kepner is releasing a new paranormal adventure series, "The Salem Scholars," during the next year. The first of the three books, "The House of the Past," will be available June 1, 2021.

A confession in writing is always a lie. With our every Tuscan word, we lie! If we knew how, by predilection, we recount all the things for which we have the words at hand, and how we avoid those things that would oblige us to turn to the dictionary! This is exactly how we choose, from our life, the episodes to underline. Obviously our life would have an entirely different aspect if it were told in our dialect.

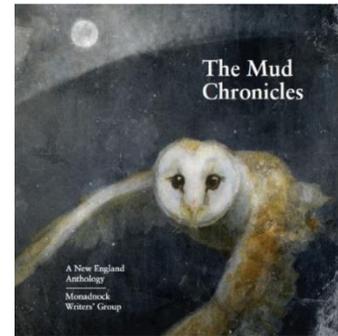
- Italo Svevo

## Timely Books from MWG

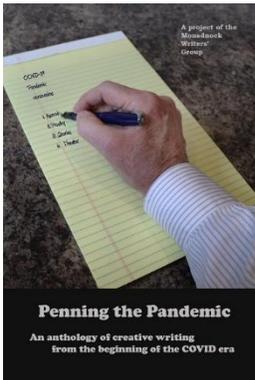
The newest anthologies from MWG provide different orientations to the spring of 2021.



***The Mud Chronicles:*** Experience of our “fifth season” highlights this anthology, showing how much landscape and seasonal cues matter to our contributors. Plus, beings of metaphor that we are, the fifth season reminds us of emotional transitions, of times that don’t fit smoothly in the unfolding of a life, that mark a shift in who we were and who we will become.



Copies at a discounted price are available for pick up in Peterborough. For details contact: [monadnockwriters@gmail.com](mailto:monadnockwriters@gmail.com)



***Penning the Pandemic:*** The creative writing in this volume shares the shock, the anguish, the courage, and the resilience of humanity in extraordinary times. After science and politics have had their say, art is left to record what the survivors felt and what they learned at heart.

It is available at the Toadstool in Peterborough and for order from any other online or brick-and-mortar retail bookseller. Copies at a discounted price are available for pick up in Peterborough. For details contact: [monadnockwriters@gmail.com](mailto:monadnockwriters@gmail.com)



Novelists don’t control much in America. But we still control what we write.  
- Richard Ford

## Fresh Ideas for Your Summer

***Should You Self-Publish?:*** The merits and flaws of self-publishing were discussed at the May MWG meeting. For a free article on its pros and cons, see <https://authorspublish.com/to-self-publish-or-to-not-self-publish-that-is-the-question/>

***Tips for Doing a Book Launch:*** See free tips at [https://blog.bookbaby.com/2021/05/planning-a-book-launch/?utm\\_campaign=BB2120&utm\\_source=BBeNews&utm\\_medium=Email#li=MA1-1ec2815356926ba4765cf86ae59def7e&cs=MA1-27415f42874721f4db3f883da7739803](https://blog.bookbaby.com/2021/05/planning-a-book-launch/?utm_campaign=BB2120&utm_source=BBeNews&utm_medium=Email#li=MA1-1ec2815356926ba4765cf86ae59def7e&cs=MA1-27415f42874721f4db3f883da7739803)

**U.S. Copyright Basics for Authors:** For a free article on copyrights as they affect authors, see <https://authorspublish.com/u-s-copyright-basics-for-authors/> and further see <https://authorspublish.com/copyright-tips-and-traps-dont-trust-your-intuition/>

**Do You Write Mystery?:** For a free listing of mystery publishers who accept submissions without an agent, see <https://authorspublish.com/23-mystery-publishers-that-accept-direct-submissions-no-agent-required/>

**The International Writers Program:** The IWP at the University of Iowa is one of the America's foremost programs for training writers. See their newsletter at [https://mail.yahoo.com/d/folders/22/messages/AD\\_WcwZgdmRcYKAI1weNmJDep\\_o?guce\\_referrer=HRocHM6Ly9sb2dpci55YWhvby5jb2ov&guce\\_referrer\\_sig=AQAAAMBqjZSMt-u7OIAOMEWQkkzDXWrCnzlB-BNvpOMAHN-nMQfiwo7b\\_tHz4D4EAd\\_vE7Izk19pLGZKUJUANGXk-efJk\\_Wn1tsmYFQntCEt8\\_FoOJE82m6qvAT-shLXFoKYuBhw8CRPzV3BuKfWVKUMOSVOF7HkX1CabFZ8uIpyMoh3](https://mail.yahoo.com/d/folders/22/messages/AD_WcwZgdmRcYKAI1weNmJDep_o?guce_referrer=HRocHM6Ly9sb2dpci55YWhvby5jb2ov&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAMBqjZSMt-u7OIAOMEWQkkzDXWrCnzlB-BNvpOMAHN-nMQfiwo7b_tHz4D4EAd_vE7Izk19pLGZKUJUANGXk-efJk_Wn1tsmYFQntCEt8_FoOJE82m6qvAT-shLXFoKYuBhw8CRPzV3BuKfWVKUMOSVOF7HkX1CabFZ8uIpyMoh3)

The Spring 2021 issue of their journal (*91<sup>st</sup> Meridian*) is at <https://iwp.uiowa.edu/91st/vol11-num1>



1. Never open a book with the weather.
  2. Avoid prologues.
  3. Never use a verb other than “said” to carry dialogue.
  4. Never use an adverb to modify the verb “said.”
  5. Keep your exclamation points under control!
  6. Never use the words “suddenly” or “all hell broke loose.”
  7. Use regional dialect, patois, sparingly.
  8. Avoid detailed descriptions of characters.
  9. Same for places and things.
  10. Leave out the parts readers tend to skip.
- [\*Elmore Leonard's 10 Rules of Writing.\*](#)

## **More from the Monadnock Writers' Group**

**Openings at our Writers' Group:** At our June meeting, MWG will hold elections for new officers. Please consider joining our Board or serving as Treasurer or Secretary. To learn more about what these roles encompass, contact us at [monadnockwriters@gmail.org](mailto:monadnockwriters@gmail.org).

**Resources for Writers:** Go to the MWG website <http://www.monadnockwriters.org/> or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/monadnockwriters/> for numerous ideas on writing, reading and publishing.

**Get something into the Quill:** If you would like to submit to our monthly newsletter please send your information to Carl at [monadnockwriters@gmail.com](mailto:monadnockwriters@gmail.com) at least four days before the end of the month. As a member, you may include your author events and announcements.

**MWG Bloggers:** Let us know if you would like your blog to be listed on the MWG website and Facebook page. Send your details to [monadnockwriters@gmail.com](mailto:monadnockwriters@gmail.com).

**Who are we at MWG?:** Established in 1984, the primary mission of the Monadnock Writers' Group is to offer fellowship and support to professional writers and to those actively engaged in developing their writing skills. For more about us and to say something about yourself, see the Monadnock Writers' Group Members page (<https://monadnockwriters.org/membership/our-members/>) where you can read short biographies of our members and you can get in touch with someone doing work related to your own or just to share work that is interesting.

## **Monadnock Writers' Group Membership Information:**

- Program year membership - September through June
  - Regular membership \$30
  - Students and seniors \$25
  - Patron \$50
  - Benefactor \$100
  - Corporate \$250
- Individual members are encouraged to announce their own projects such as workshops, social gatherings, group support sessions, or whatever the writing-related endeavor. Feel free to take the floor at the monthly meeting, or contact the newsletter editor at [monadnockwriters@gmail.com](mailto:monadnockwriters@gmail.com) to send an announcement to the membership in the monthly newsletter.
- Bring a friend to one of our monthly meetings, and if they join MWG, you will receive a \$20 gift certificate for the Toadstool Bookshop!

### 2020-2021 Board of Directors:

President: Sara Miller; Vice President: Rodger Martin; Secretary/Acting Treasurer: Carl Mabbs-Zeno; Members-at-Large: Louise Werden, Maura MacNeil, Ann Day, Jesseca Timmons.